

Nambya language

Nambya, or *Nanzwa/Nanzva*, is a Bantu language spoken by the Nambya people. It is spoken in northwestern Zimbabwe, particularly in the town of Hwange,^{[3][4]} with a few speakers in northeastern Botswana. It is either classified as a dialect of Kalanga or as a closely related language.^[5] The Zimbabwean constitution, in particular the Education Act, as amended in 1990, recognises Nambya and Kalanga as separate indigenous languages.^[5]

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Phonology

Nambya is a tonal language. It has a simple 5 vowel system and a typical Bantu consonant-vowel (CV) syllable structure. The language has onsetless syllables, but these are restricted to the word-initial position, making Nambya typical of the Southern Bantu languages.^[5]

Vowels

	<u>Front</u>	<u>Central</u>	<u>Back</u>
<u>Close</u>	<u>i</u>		<u>u</u>
<u>Mid</u>	<u>e</u>		<u>o</u>
<u>Open</u>		<u>a</u>	

Morphology

Like many Bantu languages, Nambya has a highly agglutinative morphology.^[5]

References

- Nambya (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/nmq/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
- Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Nambya" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/namb1291>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute

Nambya	
Nanzva	
Native to	Zimbabwe, Botswana
Ethnicity	Nambya people
Native speakers	80,000–100,000 ^[1]
Language family	Niger–Congo <ul style="list-style-type: none">Atlantic–Congo<ul style="list-style-type: none">Benue–Congo<ul style="list-style-type: none">Southern<ul style="list-style-type: none">Bantu<ul style="list-style-type: none">Kalanga (S.10)<ul style="list-style-type: none">Nambya
Official status	
Official language in	Zimbabwe (both Kalanga and Nambya)
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	nmq – Nambya
Glottolog	namb1291 (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/namb1291) ^[2]

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4. Kamwangamalu, Nkonko; Jr, Richard B. Baldauf; Kaplan, Robert B. (2016-04-08). *Language Planning in Africa: The Cameroon, Sudan and Zimbabwe* (<https://books.google.co.uk/books?id=t6TsCwAAQBAJ&pg=PA220&dq=nambya+hwange&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjDuqa086vTAhXIL8AKHUfwDJ0Q6AEIRzAI#v=onepage&q=nambya%20hwange&f=false>). Routledge. p. 220. ISBN 9781134916887.
5. Kadenge, Maxwell, D.Phil. (March 2010). "Some Segmental Phonological Processes Involving Vowels in Nambya: A Preliminary Descriptive Account" (<http://www.jpanafrican.org/docs/vol3no6/3.5SomeSegmental.pdf>) (PDF).

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